

Helpful Telephone Numbers  
**FOR EMERGENCY DIAL 911**

**Fire Department** 508-668-0260 (for regular business)  
20 Stone St

**Police Department** 508-668-1095 (for regular business)  
50 South St

**Stormwater Hotline** 508-660-7268  
Report illicit dumping into storm drains or waterways or  
surface water concerns

**Poison Center** 800-682-9211

**Norwood Hospital**  
800 Washington St, Norwood, MA 02062  
Phone: (781) 769-4000

**Sturdy Memorial Hospital**  
211 Park St, Attleboro, MA 02703  
Phone: (508) 222-5200

**Norwood Urgent Care**  
1210 Providence Highway, Norwood, MA 02062  
Phone: 781-255-0500

**Town Hall Offices**

Main Telephone Number - 508-660-7300

Town Clerk's Office	508-660-7296
Tax Collector/ Treasurer	508-660-7299
Assessor's Office	508-660-7315
Accountant's Office	508-660-6344
Board of Health	508-660-7321
Council on Aging	508-660-3330
Dog Officer	508-660-6356
DPW	508-660-7305
Cemetery Dept.	508-660-7305
Conservation	508-660-7268
Building Inspector	508-660-7324
Planning Board	508-660-7251

# Town of Walpole

## A Resident's Guide to Walpole, MA

[www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov)



**This publication is available to you courtesy  
of the Walpole Town Clerk's Office.**

**Elizabeth Gaffey, Town Clerk**

135 School Street

508-660-7296

[townclerk@walpole-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@walpole-ma.gov)

### Town Hall Hours

MON, WED, THURS: 8:00AM - 4:00PM

TUES: 8:00AM - 8:00PM

FRI: 8:00AM - 12:00PM

**Updated September, 2018**

Changes occur frequently and this pamphlet may not reflect all changes.

## About Walpole

## History

A group of sawmill residents who built along the great Cedar Swamp petitioned the Annual Town meeting of Dedham in 1721 for the privilege of becoming a separate Town with their own minister. Their petition was finally accepted in 1724 and they chose their Town's name in honor of the Prime Minister of England, Sir Robert Walpole. 293 years later, it is our pleasure to serve our residents, businesses and visitors. Welcome to Walpole!

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

The Town of Walpole is run by a five member Board of Selectmen (BOS), whose members are elected by voters of the town to three year terms. The BOS is the chief policy making body for municipal government.

**Current BOS members:**

Mark Gallivan, Chairman	David Salvatore
Nancy Mackenzie, Vice-Chairman	Ann Ragosta
James O'Neil, Clerk	

To contact BOS:

Mail to: 135 School Street, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-660-7277 Fax: 508-660-7303

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

The Town Administrator is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Walpole and serves under the general direction of the Walpole Board of Selectmen pursuant to the Walpole Charter.

**Town Administrator:** Jim Johnson

**Assistant Town Administrator:** Patrick Shield

To contact the Town Administrator

Mail to: 135 School Street, Walpole MA 02081

Phone: 508-660-7289 Fax: 508-660-7303

## NOTES

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## **Schools**

Main Telephone Number—508-660-7200

### **Walpole High School (9-12)**

275 Common St, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-660-7257

### **Bird Middle School (6-8)**

625 Washington Street, East Walpole, MA 02032

Phone: 508-660-7226

### **Eleanor N. Johnson Middle School (6-8)**

111 Robbins Road, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-660-7242

### **Boyden Elementary School (K-5)**

1852 Washington Street, South Walpole, MA 02071

Phone: 508-660-7216

### **Elm Street School (K-5)**

415 Elm Street, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-660-7374

### **Old Post Road School (K-5)**

99 Old Post Road, East Walpole, MA 02032

Phone: 508-660-7219

### **Fisher School (K-5)**

65 Gould Street, Walpole, MA 02082

Phone: 508-660-7234

### **Blessed Sacrament School (Pre-8)**

808 East Street, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-668-2336

### **Norfolk County Agricultural High School (9-12)**

400 Main Street, Walpole, MA 02081

Phone: 508-668-0268

## **TOWN GOVERNMENT**

Town Meeting: Representative Town meetings

Spring - First Monday in May at 7:30 PM

Fall - Third Monday in October at 7:30 PM

Town Election: First Saturday in June

Voter Registration: At Town Hall, By Mail, Online or Other Agencies

Polling Locations

Precincts 1 & 2

Old Post Road School

99 Old Post Road

Precincts 3, 4 & 5

Blackburn Hall

30 Stone Street

Precincts 6, 7 & 8

Fisher School

65 Gould Street

## **REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING MEMBERS** **(RTM)**

The townspeople elect town meeting members by precinct to represent them and to vote on the issues for them, much like a U.S. Representative votes on behalf of his or her constituents in Congress.

The RTMs are elected at the Local Election and hold a term of three years.

RTM Contact Info can be found on the Town Clerk's page of the Town Website.

## **Governor/Senators/Representatives**

### **Governor**

Charlie Baker 617-725-4005  
Office of the Governor, Room 280  
Boston, MA 02133

### **Senators in Congress**

Elizabeth Warren 202-224-4543  
317 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510

Edward J. Markey 202-224-2742  
255 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510

### **Congressional Representative, 8th District**

Stephen Lynch 208-225-8273  
2268 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

### **State Senator**

Paul Feeney - Bristol and Norfolk County  
State House, Room 507  
Boston, MA 02133 617-722-1222

### **State Representatives**

#### Precincts 1, 2, 6 & 7

John Rogers  
State House, Room 162  
Boston, MA 02133 617-722-2092

#### Precincts 3 & 4

Louis Kafka  
State House, Room 185  
Boston, MA 02133 617-722-2960

#### Precincts 5

Shawn Dooley  
State House, Room 167  
Boston, MA 02133 617-722-2810

#### Precincts 8

Paul McMurty  
State House, Room 448  
Boston, MA 02133 617-722-2582

## **Walking Trails**

**Adams Farm** - North Street parking. Various trails.

**The Endean Trail** - About 1 mile. Trail head at Bird Street, Endean Road, and Plimpton Street. Runs along Bird Pond and the Neponset River. Small parking area at Washington and Bird Streets or on Endean.

**The Pinnacle** - About 2 miles. Trail head at Rose Court Way, end of Pinnacle Drive or Plimpton Street. Parking at Ellis soccer field lot. Walk along Bird Pond and the Neponset River.

**Walpole Town Forest** - Various Trails. Trail heads at Washington Street (across from DPW) and South Street - Rail train and Whites Bridge.

### **REGIONAL TRAIL**

**Bay Circuit Trail** - Spans 200 miles from Plum Island to Kingston. The Walpole stretch is 8.3 miles long. Go to [www.baycircuit.org](http://www.baycircuit.org) for map. Trail heads at Robbins Road, School Street, Washington Street and South Street.

Limited maps prepared by Trails Committee can be obtained at  
Conservation Department for the trails above.

### **FISHING SPOTS**

**Clarks Pond** - Stone Street. Parking at parking lot on Stone Street

**Turner Pond** - Elm Street. Parking at parking lot on Elm Street

## **Walpole Recreation**

Blackburn Memorial Hall  
Physical Address: 30 Stone Street  
Mailing Address: 135 School Street  
508-660-6353  
**[www.walpolerec.com](http://www.walpolerec.com)**  
**[recreation@walpole-ma.gov](mailto:recreation@walpole-ma.gov)**

The Recreation Department offers hundreds of programs for Walpole residents each year, each contributing toward our mission of improving the quality of life in the community for residents of every age group and interest level. Our programs range from special community events to youth and teen programs, aquatics, adult enrichment courses, field trips for senior residents and more.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

## **Youth Athletics**

Athletics for school age children are run by volunteer organizations for each individual sport.

Baseball:	<a href="http://www.walpolelittleleague.com">www.walpolelittleleague.com</a>
Basketball:	<a href="http://www.wyba.org">www.wyba.org</a>
Football	<a href="http://www.walpoleyouthfootball.org">www.walpoleyouthfootball.org</a>
Hockey:	<a href="http://www.kpwhockey.org">www.kpwhockey.org</a>
Lacrosse(boys):	<a href="http://www.wyll.leag1.com">www.wyll.leag1.com</a>
Lacrosse(girls):	<a href="http://www.walpolegirlslacrosse.org">www.walpolegirlslacrosse.org</a>
Softball:	<a href="http://www.walpolesoftball.com">www.walpolesoftball.com</a>
Soccer:	<a href="http://www.walpoleyouthsoccer.com">www.walpoleyouthsoccer.com</a>

Public Playgrounds:  
Francis William Bird Park 75 Wolcott Ave  
Carolyn Woodward Memorial Playground 100 - 164 Stone St

## **Voter Registration**

### **Deadlines for Voter Registration**

In order to be eligible to vote in an election, primary or preliminary, your voter registration form must be hand-delivered or postmarked to the local board of registrars or election commission by the deadlines below:

At least 20 days prior for State Primary, State Election, City/Town Preliminary or City/Town Elections

### **How to Register to Vote**

You can register to vote in several ways:

**In Person:** Come to the Town Clerk's Office and complete the affidavit of registration.

**By Mail:** Complete a mail in registration and mail or deliver to the Town Clerk's Office.

**At the Registry of Motor Vehicles:** You can register to vote or change your registration at the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

**Online:** register at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/> or follow link from town website ([www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov)) town clerk's page under election information

### **Understanding Your Voter Rights and Your Obligations**

Your Voter Registration does not follow you if you move

- You must re-register in your new community to continue to be a voter.
- If moving to another community in Massachusetts, once you register in your new community you will be removed from the voting list in Walpole.
- If you move out of State, please notify the Walpole Town Clerk's Office in writing.
- If moving within Walpole you must notify the Town Clerk to change your voting address.

## **Understanding Your Voter Status**

### **Complete your Annual Census Form to Maintain your Active Voter Status**

- Annually, in January, you will be sent a street list census form.
- You must complete this form and return within 10 days of receipt.
- Failure to complete the annual street listing form shall result in removal from the active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls.

### **Inactive Voters**

Registered voters who do not respond to the annual street listing by June 1st are considered inactive. Inactive voters are required to complete additional forms and show an ID at elections in order to vote. Completing these forms at an election does not update your census — you must return a census form to remain active and avoid completing these forms at future elections.



### **Deleted Voters**

Inactive voters who do not respond to the census confirmation mailing and do not vote for 2 consecutive federal elections are deleted from the voting list.

## **Walpole Public Library**

143 School Street

[www.walpolelibrary.org](http://www.walpolelibrary.org)

508-660-7340

### **Hours:**

Mon: 10am - 9pm	Thurs: 10am - 9pm
Tues: 10am - 9pm	Fri: 10am - 5pm
Wed: 10am - 9pm	Sat: (Sept—May) 10am - 3pm (June—Aug) Closed
	Sun: Closed

## **Trash/Recycling**

### **Trash/Recycle Collection**

Collection is provided by the Town of Walpole, through our contract with Russell Disposal. The Town provides trash/recycle collection to 1, 2, and 3 family homes.

Trash is collected weekly, recycle collection bi-weekly.

Contact Board of Health at 508-660-7321 for day your street is collected.

### **Robbins Road Compost Site:**

In order to drop off leaves, grass clippings and brush and limbs (up to 4-foot sections not greater than 4 inches in diameter), you must be a Walpole Resident and have a Town of Walpole Compost Sticker on your vehicle. If you do not have a sticker, you will be turned away.

Compost Stickers can be purchased at the Town of Walpole Collector's office during normal business hours. The Regular Annual Fee for the First Vehicle is \$10.00 and the sticker is valid September - August.

## Dog Licensing

All dogs over the age of six months, must be licensed according to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, Section 137.

The dog licensing period is from January 1st to December 31st.

### Annual Fees:

Spayed/Neutered: \$15.00

**NOT** Spayed/Neutered: \$20.00

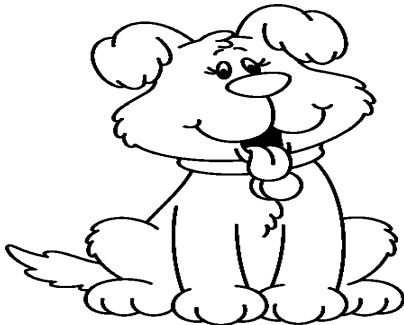
Late fees are incurred as of March 1st:

\$25.00 late fee assessed per owner

After June 1st, owners of unlicensed dogs are subject to possible citation in the amount of \$50.00.

To license your dog, you must provide an up to date rabies certificate as well as proof of spaying or neutering.

Licenses can be done either at the Town Clerk's Office or by mail (licensing form can be found on our website).



## Town Website

[www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov)

The Town of Walpole website is a valuable resource whether you are new to the area or have been here all your life.

Example of items you can find on the website are:

- Walpole Town By-Laws / Walpole Zoning By-Laws/Town Charter
- Election Information
- Voter Registration Link
- Town Meeting Schedules / Warrants / Minutes
- Upcoming Board/Committee Meetings Schedule/Agendas/Minutes
- Dog Licensing Renewal/Request Form
- Assessors Online Database
- And much, much more.....

### **Stay Connected.....**

We have implemented a system to keep our residents informed of events and meetings that are occurring in town. Whenever a new event or document is posted you have an opportunity to receive a copy in your personal email box automatically. It won't be necessary to visit the webpage, although we encourage you to do so, since not all folders can be subscribed to.

### To Subscribe:

1. Go to our home page at [www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov) and click on the button that states **SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS** near the bottom of the page.
2. Provide and Confirm Email Address
2. Choose which items you would like to receive.
3. Click on **Subscribe me**

### **Emergency Notifications**

Walpole has a telephone Emergency Notification System to notify residents and business owners in emergency situations. If you wish to add cell phone and/or email, go to [www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov), then subscribe to news and follow instructions for SWIFT 911.

### **Electricity/Gas**

Eversource: Customer Info: 800-322-3223  
Outages and Emergencies: 800- 465-1212

Columbia Gas: Customer Info: 800-688-6160  
Emergencies: 800-525-8222

### **Public Transportation**

#### **MBTA**

Commuter Rail Station - 275 West St, Walpole, MA 02081  
[www.mbtta.com/stops/walpole](http://www.mbtta.com/stops/walpole)

Bus 34E - For schedules and stops refer to [www.mbtta.com/schedules/34E/line](http://www.mbtta.com/schedules/34E/line)

THE RIDE - If unable to utilize MBTA subway, trolley or bus due to disability, this may be an option. To access, must apply and be approved by THE RIDE Eligibility Center

### **Payment of Town Bills**

#### **Real Estate/ Personal Property/ Excise/ Sewer & Water:**

3 Ways to Pay:

1) **Online:** Link to pay online by ACH or credit card can be found on Collector's page of the Town website ([www.walpole-ma.gov](http://www.walpole-ma.gov))

2) **By Mail:**

With Tax Bill: Mail to Town of Walpole,  
PO Box 30  
Medford, MA 02155

Without Tax Bill: Mail to Town of Walpole  
135 School Street  
Walpole, MA 02081

3) **In Person:** Bills may be paid at the Tax Collector's Window at the Town Hall

### **Walpole Veterans Services**

135 School St  
Walpole, MA 02081  
508-660-7325  
[jcogan@walpole-ma.gov](mailto:jcogan@walpole-ma.gov)

#### **Walpole Veterans Service Officer - SFC Jon Cogan (RET)**

The Walpole Veterans Service Officer supports veterans, their widows and dependents under Chap. 115 of the General Laws of Massachusetts and through funds of emergency nature.

Many requests are received for other services to include

- Assistance with claims for disability compensation and pensions
- Aid in application for State Wartime Bonuses and annuities
- Counseling and referrals to other VA agencies
- Flags and Holders for Veteran Gravesites
- Information on Education Benefits (GI-Bill, Post 911 GI-Bill)
- Provide Outreach support to veterans unable to travel
- Copies of Military records and Citations to include DD-214
- Assist in care packages for Deployed U.S. Servicemen and Women
- Responsible for Town of Walpole U.S. and POW flags Half Staff Notifications
- Responsible for organizing Veterans events for the Town of Walpole

As burial agent, this department will officiate at graveside veteran services and present flag to widows or next of kin.

#### **Hours of Operation: Walpole**

Mon, Wed	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 12:00 pm

#### **Hours of Operation: Medfield**

Tuesday	8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Thursday	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm



## **Walpole Council on Aging**

135 School St

508-668-3330

[www.walpole-ma.gov/council-on-aging](http://www.walpole-ma.gov/council-on-aging)

**Kerri McNamara - Director COA**

**Laurel St. Pierre - Outreach**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*To promote social, recreational and educational activities and provide advocacy and assistance to Walpole Seniors and their families*

### **HOURS**

MON 8:30 am - 4:30 pm      TUES 8:30 am - 8:00 pm

WED 8:30 am - 4:30 pm      THURS 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

FRI 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

### **SERVICES**

#### Community Outreach Services

AARP Tax Program, Farmers Market Coupons, Fuel Assistance,  
Home Healthcare, Hessco Lunch, Medical Rides, Wellbeing  
Checks, Veterans Meetings

#### Exercise

Chair Exercise, Chair Volleyball, Walking Club,  
WII Bowling, Yoga, Zumba

#### Health and Safety

Flu Clinics, Foot Care, Nutrition, Nurse Visits, Medical Rides,  
Medicare Planning, Triad, Walpole VNA Nursing

#### Social Activities

Bingo, Bridge, Creative Corner, Knitting Club, Mah Jongg, Senior  
Singing Group, Writing Group

#### Trips

Day of Beauty, Stop & Shop, Errand Days,  
Regional Day Excursions

And more.....

## **Real Estate Taxes**

The Town of Walpole has a quarterly tax billing schedule for real estate. The tax billing year is based on a fiscal year and not a calendar year. The fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th. Tax payments are due August 1st, November 1st, February 1st and May 1st.

### **Property Tax Exemptions**

The Walpole Board of Assessors offers property tax exemptions and deferrals of property taxes for those who qualify.

Massachusetts General Law allows certain taxpayers' exemptions from all or a portion of their property tax bills. These exemptions are allowed to those who qualify under State Law, primarily from among the elderly; disabled veterans, the blind, widows and widowers and minor children of deceased parents. In order to receive an exemption, you must apply at the Assessors Office.

#### Property Tax Exemptions

Clause 41C	Elderly Exemption, Age 65+, Income requirements
Clause 17D	Elderly Citizens, 65+, Surviving Spouses & Minors
Clause 37	Blind
Clause 22	Disabled Veterans
Clause 18	Hardship, Aged, Infirm
Clause 41A	Tax Deferral, Age 65+, Income requirements

For more information, contact the Board of Assessors at 508-660-7315 or write/visit Board of Assessors, 135 School St., Walpole, MA 02081.

**Walpole Elder Services**  
**Property Tax Credit Program**

The Town of Walpole has adopted MGL Chapter 59 Section 5K which establishes a program under which eligible senior citizens may acquire up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) annually in credit, to apply to the property tax bill by working in municipal departments, augmenting the existing work force. To be eligible, individuals must be at least 60 years of age and reside in the property for which the tax credit is sought. Each owner of the property that meets the eligibility criteria can apply for and participate in the program.

Participants in the program will be credited for service at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective January 2018 and this credit can be used in conjunction with other personal exemptions. The amount of credit reduction under this program is not considered income or wages for the purposes of state income tax withholding, unemployment compensation or worker's compensation, however it is considered income relative to federal tax regulations and the Town Treasurer will deduct social security and Medicare taxes from the rate of service (\$11.00/hr) and a W-2 form will be issued for federal income tax purposes. Participants are not eligible for employee benefits afforded to Town of Walpole employees.

The Veterans Agent will administer the program, certifying initial eligibility, assigning work-sites and overseeing a smooth process. Participants assigned to specific positions must agree to a CORI check (criminal background) prior to placement. All applicable statutes, regulations and program criteria will be implemented, and Council on Aging Director will make the final determinations relative to program placement and procedures.

**Walpole Elder Services**  
**Property Tax Credit Program**  
**(continued)**

A certificate of completion form must be submitted by Dec. 1 in order for the participant to receive credit for service hours in the fiscal year's tax bill. Any forms submitted after Dec. 1st, will be used to issue credit on the next fiscal year's tax bill. Under no circumstances will any participant receive more than the \$1,000.00 credit in any fiscal year under this program..

**Walpole Veterans Property Tax Credit Program**

This program is the same as the Elder Services tax credit program with the following exceptions:

1. Veterans need to provide a Valid DD 214 with an Honorable Discharge
2. Veterans can be of any age to participate.

**Water and Sewer**

The Walpole Sewer and Water Department provides municipal utility services to the Town. Water conservation incentives include free low flow showerheads and faucet aerators, in addition to rebates for water sense washing machines and toilets. For details, contact the Water Department at 508-660-7307.